



NEWS RELEASE

North Dakota State Water Commission

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Public Input Encouraged at Missouri River Annual Operating Plan Meeting

The public is encouraged to attend the Corps of Engineers Annual Operating Plan meeting on Tuesday, October 28 at 11:00 a.m. at the Bismarck Civic Center. State Engineer Todd Sando will be presenting testimony at the meeting.

Sando will address highly important issues including, above normal run-off in the basin, further increasing releases from Garrison Dam before freeze-in, and the increased risk of ice-induced flooding. "Increased winter releases exacerbate groundwater conditions along the river and increase the likelihood of ice-induced flooding - especially in the Bismarck-Mandan area," Sando stated. "I strongly urge the Corps to further increase releases from Garrison Dam before freeze-in to alleviate undue risk to the citizens of North Dakota."

The State Water Commission is encouraging the public to attend this meeting to help address these issues. "Public input and comments will be fundamental factors at this meeting," said Sando. "This is the time and place to voice any concerns regarding river operations to members of the Corps who make the operational decisions."